

TOP SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

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TOP SECRET SUPPLEMENT

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State Dept. review completed

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WESTERN EUROPE

1. Passport system may condemn East German citizens to mass immobility: Although reports stating that an internal passport system will soon be introduced in East Germany are considered "premature" by American officials in Frankfurt, it is reliably reported that the East German Government plans the implementation of such a system by mid-September. Under the system, holders of limited-travel passports will need the permission of local administrative officials prior to travel beyond county or district borders.

American officials in Frankfurt state that the introduction of such a system would still further restrict the geographic mobility of East German residents. It would hamper church officials in their work and handicap the church as a resistance center, and would further curtail the movement of job-seekers. It would also make [redacted] more difficult, strike a blow at organized smuggling, and probably make flight to the West more dangerous. (TS Frankfurt Telecon, 5 Sept 52; [redacted])

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2. French reportedly arresting Spanish Communist militants:

[redacted] the French Minister of the Interior has ordered the arrest and expulsion of the remaining Spanish Communist leaders and militants in France. Between 200 and 300 arrests are expected this month. [redacted] FOR CRITICAL SECURITY REASONS this report is not to be further transmitted within the United States or beyond the borders of the United States without the express permission of the releasing office.)

25X1A

Comment: Similar arrests were made by the French in 1950 and 1951, after which the Spanish Communists apparently went into tactical retirement. Early this year, however, the American Consulate in Bordeaux reported the existence of a small but active group of Spanish Communists in Toulouse.

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